IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Robert R. STEUER et al.

Application No. (NEW)

: TC/Art Unit: (not yet assigned)

Filed: December 9, 2003

Examiner: (not yet assigned)

For: Sensor for Transcutaneous

MEASUREMENT OF VASCULAR

ACCESS BLOOD FLOW

Atty Docket: P65684US3

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination, Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a); and any fees required for consideration of this paper and any papers associated with it (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 06-1358.

Kindly enter the following Amendment:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 6 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 7 of this paper and include an attached replacement sheet.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.